

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

SAB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05 IO-10 /073 W

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P R 171340Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3729

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAMASCUS 2270

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE

SUBJ: FONMIN KHADDAM RETURNS TO LEBANON TO ASSIST IN SOLVING
CRISIS

1. SYRIAN FONMIN KHADDAM RETURNED TO BEIRUT LATE JUNE 16
FOR MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT FRANGIEH, DAHDAH AND KARAMI
TO HELP RESOLVE LEBANESE CABINET CRISIS. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED
BY COS HIKMAT SHIHABI. INITIAL FOUR AND ONE-HALF HOUR SESSION
WAS FOLLOWED BY KARAMI'S STATEMENT THAT KHADDAM/SHIHABI VISIT
MOTIVATED BY DESIRE TO INFORM THEMSELVES OF LATEST DEVELOPMENTS
IN LEBANESE POLITICAL CRISIS. MENA ALSO SAID THEY HAD COME
TO BRIEF LEBANESE ON ASAD'S VISIT TO JORDAN.

2. SYRIAN PRESS ANNOUNCED THAT PRIOR TO DEPARTURE FOR LEBANON,
KHADDAM RECEIVED LEBANESE MUFTI HASAN KHALID IN PRESENCE OF
SYRIAN MINISTER OF WAQFS. KHALID FOLLOWED UP THIS MEETING
WITH CALL ON PRESIDENT ASAD. ASAD REVIEWED LEBANESE
SITUATION, PARTICULARLY "EFFORTS EXERTED TO RETURN
CONDITION TO NORMAL AND IMPLANT BASES OF LOVE AND
CORDIALITY AMONG ALL LEBANESE."

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3. AS OF MID-DAY JUNE 17, KHADDAM HAD NOT RETURNED TO DAMASCUS.

4. COMMENT: PRESENCE OF SHIHABI ON SYRIAN DELEGATION,
KARAMI STATEMENTS AND KHALID VISIT ALL INDICATE THAT
INTENT OF SYRIAN MISSION WAS TO FURTHER SYRIAN MEDIATION
EFFORTS AND TO GIVE BOOST TO KARAMI. BRIEFING LEBANESE
ON ASAD VISIT TO JORDAN COULD HAVE BEEN DONE AT MUCH
LOWER LEVEL.
PELLETREAU

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: INTERVENTION, POLITICAL SETTLEMENT, CABINET, CIVIL DISORDERS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 17 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975DAMASC02270
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750210-0966
From: DAMASCUS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750639/aaaabjrn.tel
Line Count: 69
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <01 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <28 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: FONMIN KHADDAM RETURNS TO LEBANON TO ASSIST IN SOLVING CRISIS
TAGS: PFOR, SY, LE, (KHADDAM, ABD AL-HALIM)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006